

## Open Floor Hearing Representation from Alice Spain, 15 July 2020

My name is Alice Spain and although I'm on Necton Parish Council, I'm making this representation in my own right as a resident of Necton. I would like to raise the issue of possible Boreas site contamination. At the heart of my concern is notification to MAFF of a residual radiation risk after a visiting RDAF plane crashed in 1996 and scattered debris over a large area near Necton that both Boreas and Vanguard are scheduled to disturb. As you will be aware, the risk from radiation and also carbon fibre, does not reduce for a long time and, if there, is likely to remain present for many decades to come. The Environment Agency were asked to comment on this issue by the Vanguard Examining Authority but the Environment Agency representative told me that Breckland Council had not informed them of this possibly contaminated land and therefore they could not get involved. After I enquired at Breckland, their representative told me there had to be a hazard, route of entry and person(s) exposed to the harm and this was not the case, even when Vanguard disturbed the site. No documentation of this risk assessment was forthcoming. As a retired HSE professional and concerned resident with local knowledge of wind directions, I believe that the residents of Necton are at risk of exposure to an invisible hazard, namely radiation and carbon fibres, and that we would be unaware of that exposure.

I believe the hazard to be radioactively contaminated dust, the route of entry to be inhalation and the persons exposed would be site workers and residents in their garden on a windy day. The risk would be low if the contaminant was a chemical but a radioactive dust only requires one particle, depending on the isotope. The risk would be highest for workers on the site.

I asked for a requirement in the Vanguard DCO for a survey of the applicable land for such contamination before any digging started. I failed to get a survey but I did get a very sensible procedure to deal with any contamination found by the applicant. While I applaud Breckland's procedure, I am concerned about radioactive contamination, particularly as it is invisible and requires a Geiger Counter for detection. What construction company asks its employees or contractors to carry a Geiger Counter? None that I'm aware of. This type of possible contamination requires a specific survey to identify it. The likelihood of the applicant identifying the contamination without the right equipment is remote. I and a lot of local residents would like information put on public record from a reputable source that proves this already officially reported contamination does not currently exist before the land is disturbed. I recognise that the notification was made thirty years ago but that should not negate its validity in the case of radiation or carbon fibres. The applicant has referred to the soil remediation that took place at the time but that was only to a plough depth of 18 inches so I do not believe that is in any way adequate for the soil disturbance of a large construction project. I respectfully request that you do not follow the example of the Vanguard Examining Authority and that you put a Necton pre-construction survey requirement into the DCO. If the survey is only a requirement for Boreas, the information may be available late in the day but at least we will know for certain and can take appropriate action at that time.

Please also note that the Top Farm site escaped the contamination. The applicant was informed of all these facts during the consultation process for Vanguard and Boreas. All available documentation has been supplied to both the examining authority and the applicant